

ACTIVITY: Snorkeling

CASE: GSAF 2013.08.14

DATE: Wednesday August 14, 2013

LOCATION: The attack took place in the Pacific Ocean at Palaua Beach Park (aka White Rock), Makena, Maui, Hawaii, USA.



NAME: Jana Lutteropp

DESCRIPTION: She was a 20-year-old female, fair-skinned, blond and wearing a bikini, mask, fins and snorkel. She was a visitor from Germany.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 16h54, Maui recorded partly cloudy skies and 10-mile visibility. The air temperature was 84°F, dew point 68°F, humidity 58%, sea level pressure 29.95 inches and wind direction was NE at 23 mph.

MOON PHASE: First Quarter, August 14, 2013

SEA CONDITIONS: The water was choppy with limited visibility.

ENVIRONMENT: DLNR education and outreach coordinator Laura Stevens had said that spear fishermen were reporting "increasing boldness of large sharks encountered in Maui waters." Tiger shark attacks are the most common species, and is considered the most aggressive shark in Hawaii's waters. Palaua Beach has shallow caves and crevices, and lava arches. Turtles are often present and sharks come close to shore in the area.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 50 yards

DEPTH OF WATER: 15 to 20 feet

TIME: 16h30

INJURY: Lacerations to right foot and right arm severed below the shoulder," Fire Department Chief Lee Mainaga reported. He also said the limb had not been recovered.

FIRST AID: Rick Moore, 57-year-old, physical education teacher swam toward shore with her. His friend, 61-year-old Nicholas Grisaffi, stood in neck-high water, took her from Moore and carried her from the water. They put her in a bystander's kayak, using it as a stretcher to bring her up a trail leading to the street where Moore performed CPR. A police officer placed a tourniquet as the woman was going in and out of consciousness. The woman was rushed to Maui Memorial Medical Center by ambulance in critical condition. On August 18, 2013, the hospital reported she was in very critical condition and was on life support. She succumbed to her injuries on August 21, 2013.



County officials closed a two-mile stretch of shoreline from Makena Beach Resort to Mana

Kai Resort. Lifeguards hooked-up with Maui Fire Department to put up a helicopter and fly the coastline looking for the shark.

SPECIES: Not identified, but thought to involve a tiger shark.

SOURCES: KHON2, Sunday August 18, 2013, <http://www.khon2.com/2013/08/18/shark-bites-big-island-surfer-beach-closed/>
The Honolulu Star-Advertiser, August 15, 2013,
<http://www.firehouse.com/news/11116532/shark-bites-off-snorkelers-arm-in-maui-people-race-to-help-woman>
4 NBC Southern California, August 18, 2013,
<http://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/California-Man-Credited-Rescues-Maui-Shark-Attack-Victim-219962521.html>
Star Advertiser, August 21, 2013,
http://www.staradvertiser.com/news/breaking/20130821_German_tourist_bitten_by_shark_off_Maui_dies.html?id=220583621



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